1:Griffiths M-5 (ca. 1940) 1946 AW37 Kol AW37

PLATE IX.

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Kols Buying wood from Gonds for resale in Jubbulpore.

[133]
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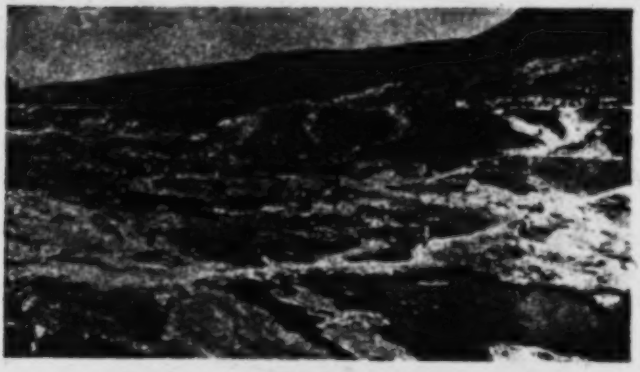

A Cement Pit in the Kaimers. Most of the Labourers are Kols.

Kols passing up Limestone to be Burnt in the Kilns.

[facing p. 264]

1:Griffiths M-5 (ca. 1940) 1946 AW37 Kol AW37

566 viously, at which time he incurred a debt of Rs. fourteen for the ex-
426 penses of the wedding. This was borrowed from a *Thakur* of a near-
[124] by village who appeared most glad to lend it to him. Ever since that day this *Thakur* has considered him as his serf, and he is supposed to go daily to him; and even though he has worked for the *Thakur* for the past twelve years he has not cleared the debt and does not believe that he ever will. He is virtually a slave of this man, is on call at any time, and must give him the first work until he no longer requires him. For each day's work the *Thakur* will give him 1½ *seers* of *chana* (usually *Dolichos lablab*) or perhaps the same amount of barley still in the head. Money was never given, nor rice or wheat. This group of Kols in Rewa was a very intelligent one on the whole, but indicated that Rewa State was not a place where one could get more than just
[538] the necessary food. As one expressed it: "In Rewa there is no stomach hunger, only money hunger." This appeared to be quite a common expression over a wide area. Food was available there, but no money for the other necessities of life nor for weddings, burials and the like.

339 In centres like Kymore and Katni where there are large cement
464 works, the majority of the coolies employed in the many types of
434 manual labour are Kols. The work is very hard and the wages are low: usually not more than four annas a day for males and three annas for female workers.

434 Kharara Ghat, the isolated Kol village, is perhaps as independent
[423] economically as any Kol group studied by us. It was previously noted that this village controls about eighty acres of land. They say that ordinarily they do not sell the farm products, rather keeping
[162] them for the use of the village as well as holding a small reserve for emergencies. The village contains about 135 adult persons and the land farmed takes care of their food. Money for other needs is gained
222 in many ways: during the months of May and June the leaves of the
276 *tendu* tree (*Diospyros melanoxylon*) are picked for use in the *biri*
434 manufacture. The leaves are gathered in the early morning or the
438 evenings, and in the heat of the day the people sit under the trees or on the verandas of their houses and arrange the leaves in bundles of one hundred each, tying them with fibre. These bundles are then sold to contractors at the rate of four annas per hundred bundles. Prices vary somewhat according to the quality and the demand. The Kharara Ghat folk claim that they earn from Rs. 400 to 500 per year from the sale of these leaves.

434 Kharara Ghat has other sources of income. The village is situa-
313 ted on a jungly section on the edge of the reserved forest. Wood is